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August 27, 2008


Louis C. Frank, Patent Attorney

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT
Examining Group 1657
Patent Application
Docket No. UF-304XC2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : David M. Naff
Art Unit : 1657
Applicants : Laurie B. Gower *et al.*
Serial No. : 10/691,002
Filed : October 22, 2003
Confirm. No. : 5666
For : Biomimetic Organic/Inorganic Composites, Processes for Their Production, and Methods of Use

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, the reference listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08 is being brought to the attention of the examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. A copy of the reference (R1) is enclosed.

The applicants have not included a publication date since the date cannot be ascertained. As far as applicants are aware, abstracts of granted National Science Foundation (NSF) proposals are available on the NSF website no less than one month after the award grant date. According to the NSF, a copy of the proposal for which the abstract has been made available can be obtained through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. However, in the present case, the applicants were

unable to determine, through telephone communication with the NSF, when the R1 proposal abstract was published on the NSF website or when the proposal may have been available through a FOIA request.

The applicants do know that the proposal was submitted to the NSF no later than February 4, 2000, and the award was granted on February 15, 2000. A copy of the full proposal, as originally submitted to the NSF, is attached hereto.

The applicants respectfully assert that the substantive provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98 are met by the foregoing statement. While the applicants have been aware of the reference for more than three months, the applicants have only become aware within the last three months that it may have been available through a FOIA request. Accordingly, the applicants submit that 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2) applies and, therefore, no fee is required with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment: Form PTO/SB/08 (1 page)
Copy of R1 reference